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5. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said image data retouching unit executes sharpening of images if said object picture elements are determined to be edge picture elements.

7. (Twice Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said picture element characteristic determining unit determines picture elements to be moiré picture elements if the distribution in said range of smaller differences is dominant and if said distribution is polarized positively or negatively.

8. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said image data retouching unit executes smoothing of images if said object picture elements are determined to be moiré picture elements.

10. (Twice Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said image data retouching unit obtains a retouching value for the luminance value of said image data, and adds the retouching value to the tone values of element colors to retouch the image data.

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11. (Twice Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

in retouching the image data of the picture elements, an image data attribute specifying unit for acquiring specification of the attribute of image data to be handled is caused to execute the function thereof, and

said image data retouching unit is caused to execute the function thereof on the basis of the image data having the attribute acquired by said image data attribute specifying unit.
